

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Raymond Tabandeh on 2/22/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

1.1. Claims 38 cancelled.

1.2. Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the cryptographic device is configured for encrypting data.

1.3. 17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the cryptographic device is configured for decrypting data.

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1.4. 25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of loading the user transaction data related to a user into a cryptographic device when the user requests to operate on a value bearing item.

/Matthew Heneghan/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2139

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this section can be found in the prior office action.
3. Claims 2 and 24 have been cancelled by the applicant.
4. Claims 1 and 22 have been amended by the applicant.
5. Claims 1, 3-23, 25-37, now re-numbered as claims 1-35 are pending.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments in the action filed 12/11/2007, relative to claims 1, 3-23, 25-37 has been found persuasive in light of the limitations of claims 1 and 22, and agreement reached on the telephone interview conducted 2/22/2008 (please see the attached Interview Summary).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Amended claims 1, 3-23, 25-37, now re-numbered as claims 1-35 are allowed.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims are allowed in view of the prior amendments and for reasons argued by applicant filed 12/11/2007. In particular, prior art of record fails to disclose the four states, namely the raw state, the unleased state, the assigned state, and the leased state, all of which are specifically defined in the Specification.

Dependent claims depend upon the independent claims, which include the above-mentioned features.

None of the prior art of record, either taken by itself or in any combination, would have anticipated or made obvious the invention of the present application at or before the time it was filed.

Conclusion

9. Any comments considered necessary by the applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "comments on statement of reasons for allowance."

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10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farid Homayounmehr whose telephone number is 571 272 3739. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 hrs Mon-Fri, off Monday biweekly.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Farid Homayounmehr
Examiner
Art Unit 2139

/Matthew Heneghan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2139